

APPENDIX G-GS2 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTES

Within the project area there may be existing hazardous waste sites that could adversely affect public health and safety. Such sites should be identified, where possible, within the project area boundary. A computerized database search was conducted for the project area. This database search was then augmented where necessary by review of files and discussions with staff members of the Butte County Department of Environmental Health, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Continued operations of the Oroville Facilities will necessitate the transport, use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials, such as petroleum and cleaning products. Accidental release and/or improper handling of hazardous materials can affect public health and safety. Hazardous materials used and stored within the project area were determined by review of Hazardous Materials Management Plan(s) (HMMP) maintained by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and others that use and store hazardous materials within the project area. Under California law, if threshold amounts of hazardous materials are used and stored at a site, there must be an HMMP at the site, generally with copies given to local agencies that might conduct emergency response activities. In addition, facilities within the project area that need to legally dispose of spent hazardous materials that become a hazardous waste must ship such waste via the Uniform Waste Manifest system. Thus, there is generally a sufficient record, either through HMMPs or waste manifests, to ascertain the type and amount of hazardous materials entering and leaving the project area. This knowledge can then be used to determine any potentially significant effects on public health and safety.

G-GS2.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The definition of hazardous materials included in Section 66260.10, Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) is provided in Section 5.3.1.6 of Section 5.3, Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources, of this Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA). In addition to this definition, hazardous materials have been defined as substances with certain chemical and physical properties that could pose a substantial present or future hazard to human health if improperly handled, used, stored, or disposed. Public health hazards from hazardous materials may occur through contamination of soils or groundwater (and potentially surface water) or through airborne releases of dust or vapors. Exposure to hazardous materials and wastes could cause various short-term or long-term health effects.

G-GS2.1.1 Hazardous Materials Regulatory/Statutory Framework

California Health and Safety Code Section 25531 incorporates the federal law as it pertains to hazardous materials. This includes development of a Risk Management Plan (RMP) for facilities that store or handle acutely hazardous materials in reportable quantities. CCR Title 8 requires facility owners to prepare and implement safety management plans where large quantities of hazardous materials are handled. The

Uniform Fire Code has requirements for the storage and handling of hazardous materials. California has regulations and statutes controlling both aboveground and underground storage tanks for petroleum fuels, a common hazardous material in the project area.

The Hazardous Materials Program within the Butte County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division, is the local agency responsible for oversight in the use and storage of hazardous materials within Butte County. The program's major oversight responsibilities include:

- Reviewing, approving, and monitoring Hazardous Material Management Plans (also known as "Business Plans"), as required by State law. These plans are required of all county businesses, including government agencies, that store or handle hazardous materials in amounts equal to or exceeding 55 gallons, 500 pounds, or 200 cubic feet of gas (at standard temperature and pressure).
- Monitoring the installation, removal, and leakage of underground and aboveground petroleum fuel storage tanks.

In regard to hazardous materials incidents (such as spills and accidents involving hazardous materials), Butte County has an interagency hazardous materials team organized through the use of a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Members of the hazmat team are provided by the Cities of Chico, Oroville, Paradise, Biggs, and Gridley; and Butte County and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). It is reported that hazardous materials incidents requiring team responses number about 120 a year. Drug labs and associated wastes are the main cause of incidents. Other significant incidents include train derailments, tanker overturns, and agriculture-related incidents.

In addition to the Butte County Hazardous Materials Program, large cases of hazardous materials contamination and violations are referred to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and/or the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). In some cases, USEPA Region IX may also be involved.

The Butte County Air Quality Management District regulates air emissions in Butte County.

G-GS2.1.2 Hazardous Materials in the Oroville Facilities Vicinity

To research hazardous waste considerations and incidents in the vicinity of the Oroville Facilities, a computer database search was conducted. This database search examined numerous federal and State databases such as:

- National Priorities List (NPL)—National Superfund List;
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS);

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System—USEPA regulation of generators of hazardous material;
- Hazardous Waste Information System—DTSC database of the movement and disposal of hazardous waste;
- Emergency Response Notification System—national database on unauthorized releases of oil and hazardous substances;
- Cal-Sites (Bond Expenditure Plan [BEP], Annual Workplan [AWP])—State equivalent to the NPL (California State Superfund);
- Cal-Sites Abandoned Sites Program Information System (ASPIS)—State equivalent to CERCLIS (historical abandoned site survey program);
- Cortese List—list of potential and confirmed hazardous waste or substances sites in California;
- Solid Waste Information System—California Waste Management Board list of certain facilities including active solid waste disposal sites, inactive or closed solid waste disposal sites, and transfer facilities;
- Leaking Underground Storage Tank Information System—database maintained by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB); and
- Registered Underground Storage Tanks—underground storage tanks registered with the SWRCB.

The database search was conducted for a target area within or on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) project boundary line. The search yielded 36 locations (some incidents or facilities are at the same numbered site) where there is some type of hazardous materials information, whether it relates to underground storage tanks, aboveground storage tanks, hazardous materials handling, hazardous waste generation, or hazardous materials spill incidents. Table G-GS2.1-1 illustrates the sites found on the environmental databases.

In addition to these sites within the FERC boundary, the DWR Oroville Field Division facility is located at 460 Glen Drive, approximately 2 miles southwest of Oroville Dam. This facility was included in the database search because, although it is not within the FERC boundary, it does control the use and movement of hazardous materials and associated hazardous waste in and out of the FERC project boundary area. The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) maintenance facility at 400 Glen Drive also controls the use and movement of hazardous materials and waste in and out of the FERC project boundary area. DPR uses such hazardous materials as herbicides and pesticides on lands it manages within the FERC boundary.

Table G-GS2.1-1. Summary of hazardous materials/waste sites within or at project boundaries.

Facility	Address	Materials/Issues
Cherokee Mine	250 Cherokee Road	Mining activities contamination
Pentz Gravel Pit	Cherokee Road	Abandoned gravel pit
Transfer Station	592 Table Mountain Road	Halogenated solvents
Hazardous materials spill site	5413 High Rocks Court	Small spill incident—1/29/03
Illegal drug lab at residence	37 Thompson Flat Road	Drug lab wastes
Thermalito Irrigation District	535 Table Mountain Blvd.	Air quality permit
Bidwell Canyon Marina	801 Bidwell Canyon Road	Formerly had underground storage tanks (UST); currently has aboveground storage tanks (AST) for fuel; facility has Hazardous Material Management Plan (HMMP); wastewater treatment plant (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System [NPDES] permit)
Hazardous materials spill site	85 Ranch Vista Road	Small diesel spill—12/19/00
Hazardous materials spill site	79 Grand Ave	Small oil spill site—12/31/03
Sprint Communications building	2405 Bird Street	Small hazardous waste generator, leaking UST (some minor groundwater contamination, case closed 8/7/03)
California Water District	2450 Bird Street	Air quality permit, AST
Butte Co. Dept. of Public Works	Butte County Right of Way	Small hazardous waste generator
B&N Mini Mart	1355 Washington Ave	Leaking UST
California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), Feather River Fish Hatchery	5 Table Mountain Road	Small hazardous waste generator (lab waste chemicals, organic chemicals, pesticides); facility has wastewater treatment plant (NPDES permit); leaking diesel UST (case closed—USTs removed)
Bonus (gas station)	1355 Washington Ave	Operating USTs (unleaded gasoline and diesel)
River Road utility poles	South of Fell Street	Minor spill of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) containing oil. Cleaned up

Table G-GS2.1-1. Summary of hazardous materials/waste sites within or at project boundaries.

Facility	Address	Materials/Issues
Drug lab waste	7th St. and Feather Ave	Unknown amount of drug lab wastes abandoned; cleaned up by Butte County Dept. of Health
Robert S. Taylor Fram	1086 State Route 70	Gasoline USTs (agricultural)
H.B. Orchard Company	1061 State Route 70	Gasoline UST (agricultural)
Lamalfa & Sons	35 La Malfa Lane	
Kiewit Pacific Co.	831 Oroville Dam Road	Small hazardous waste generator (oil containing wastes)
DFG, Oroville Wildlife Area	945 Oroville Dam Road West	Small hazardous waste generator; no HMMP needed per Butte County; gasoline and diesel USTs previously removed
Buck Animal Hospital	750 Oroville Dam Road	Small hazardous waste generator
Oroville Hospital Urgent Care	900 Oroville Dam Road	
Caltrans Oroville Maintenance Station	350 Oroville Dam Blvd	Leaking UST (diesel, contaminated soil only, cleaned up, case closed); facility no longer present
Feather River Orchard Company	1313 State Route 70	Diesel and gasoline USTs (agricultural)
Robinson Corner (gas station)	1617 State Route 70	Gasoline USTs
Gold Nugget Oil Company (gas station)	2970 Feather River Blvd.	Leaking UST (gasoline, groundwater contamination); small hazardous waste generator
SR 70 Fuel/Scales	2970 Feather River Blvd.	Gasoline and diesel USTs
Rice Experiment Station	SR 162, 3 miles west of Biggs	Gasoline UST (agricultural)
Dane Andres Ranch	3730 Larkin Road	
John Coleman	3828 Larkin Road	
Ames Glaviano	3962 Larkin Road	
John Perkins	9 Oakwood Lane	

Table G-GS2.1-1. Summary of hazardous materials/waste sites within or at project boundaries.

Facility	Address	Materials/Issues
Lime Saddle Marina	P.O. Box 1088 Pentz Magalia Highway Paradise	Formerly had UST; currently has ASTs for fuel; facility has HMMP
Outside FERC Boundary*		
DWR Oroville Field Division Facility	460 Glen Drive	Hazardous materials associated with Oroville Facilities operations and maintenance, facility has HMMP, past leaking USTs and active fuel ASTs
California Department of Parks and Recreation	400 Glen Drive	

** The DWR Oroville Operations Facility, although not within the FERC boundary, does control the use and movement of hazardous materials and associated hazardous waste in and out of the FERC project boundary area.*

G-GS2.1.3 Hazardous Materials Management Plans

As mentioned above, there are regulatory requirements for the preparation and maintenance of HMMPs when facility operations store or handle hazardous materials in amounts equal to or exceeding 55 gallons, 500 pounds, or 200 cubic feet of gas (at standard temperature and pressure). These HMMPs must be submitted to local agencies, particularly the environmental health and emergency response agencies, ostensibly so that emergency responders know what to expect in a facility when an emergency entrance is needed. Also, the HMMP allows the local environmental health agency to know what a facility is storing and handling, and to know that it is doing so in a manner protective of human health and worker safety.

Both private and public sector facilities must have an HMMP if they meet the threshold levels of hazardous materials. Within the FERC boundary, DWR, DPR, and DFG have HMMPs (per the Butte County Department of Health). Hazardous materials present are those related to operations of the hydroelectric facilities, fish hatchery facilities, and recreational facilities. Fuel facilities (containing petroleum hydrocarbon compounds such as diesel and gasoline) are located at these facilities as well. Table G-GS2.1-1 lists those facilities within the FERC boundary confirmed by Butte County as having HMMPs. Bidwell Marina also maintains an HMMP in regard to the hazardous materials generally associated with marina activities (principally fueling and marine vessel maintenance).

There appear to be no significant hazardous materials or waste issues within the FERC project boundary. DWR conducts its hazardous materials and wastes management activities within the requirements of local, State, and federal laws and regulations.

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